**BEHIND THE SCENES:** ANIMAL CRUELTY  
\*Just because the media does not pay enough attention to this issue, it does not mean that shouldn’t either!\*

* Neglect
  + “No one has a constitutional right to own an animal. Animals in most states are considered property, but if you decide to own an animal, you have certain duties to it. You can't just starve or beat an animal to death because you own it”
  + Neglect statutes often contain "shall" language and list certain standards of care that must be maintained. Most relevant statutes outlaw the deprivation of food, water, shelter, or adequate veterinary treatment
  + Violating neglect statute if you chain dog and it can’t reach its food / water
  + Food cannot have mold or fungi (PUPPY MILLS)
  + “For the shelter of a dog, many states require a clean, solid surface, resting platform, or pad that is large enough for the animal to lie on in a normal manner”



**Center Brook Farm**

The farm, raided on Wednesday by the [New York State Police](http://www.nydailynews.com/topics/New+York+State+Police) and the Columbia-Greene Humane Society/[SPCA](http://www.nydailynews.com/topics/The+Society+for+the+Prevention+of+Cruelty+to+Animals), found 177 horses infested with lice and starving to death.

The startling discovery led to the arrest on Friday of breeder [Ernie Paragallo](http://www.nydailynews.com/topics/Ernie+Paragallo), who is free on bail, facing 22 counts of animal cruelty - failure to provide proper sustenance. Each count carries up to a year in jail and/or a $1,000 fine.

* Dogfighting
  + Injure their dogs in a dogfight and then don’t seek professional treatment for wounds
  + Use veterinary drugs
  + Medical operations (docking or “roping” dog’s ears)
  + “Fights often last hours - two to three hours is the norm. Dogs fall down, only to have their owners put them back into the ring. Afterward, the losing dogs face beatings or even execution. This is why we say that dogfighting is a death sentence”

“Until last year, Virginia had an adequate dogfighting law but allowed cockfighting as long as observers did not gamble on the fight. Today, in the wake of the Vick case (which was prosecuted by the federal authorities), Virginia has one of the best animal fighting laws in the country. The statute is historic because it applies to everyone who goes to an animal fight. Attendance of any kind is now illegal. Organized animal fighting of any kind is illegal, particularly cockfights and dogfights. Gambling on the fight and possessing paraphernalia of animal fighting or training dogs to fight are felonies. Having minors attend or participate in any way is illegal. Enhancing an animal's ability to fight is illegal”



http://www.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://anydifference.com/yahoo\_site\_admin/assets/images/dogfight1.47210754\_std.jpg&imgrefurl=http://www.anydifference.com/petition\_page&usg=\_\_Ak9QEQL4DT1oamW-bg1VaiG5Umc=&h=282&w=383&sz=26&hl=en&start=1&zoom=1&itbs=1&tbnid=dAaFrUhmu5QDWM:&tbnh=91&tbnw=123&prev=/images%3Fq%3Ddogfighting%26hl%3Den%26gbv%3D2%26tbs%3Disch:1

* Puppy mills
  + Use wire-bottom cages that hurt the dogs’ paws
  + Puppy mills usually house dogs in overcrowded and often unsanitary conditions, without adequate health care, food, water or human company.
  + The breeding dogs are bred as often as possible to increase profits and probably will never see life outside of the puppy mill. The owners rarely pay attention to the health or happiness of the dogs.
  + Puppy mills often generate health problems for the dogs they are selling. The puppies may have immediate health problems such as respiratory infections or pneumonia and some even have genetic diseases that show up years later.
  + Breeding dogs suffer continuously, imprisoned in small cramped cages, often soiled with their own excrement, breeding litter after litter till they can no longer reproduce.
  + No states have laws against a breeding kennel legally keeping dozens of dogs in cages for their entire lives, if food, water, and shelter are provided.
  + Thousands of puppy mills aren't even regulated or inspected by the USDA, since many of them sell directly to the public.
  + The average puppy mill has between 65 and 75 animals housed in hutch-style cages with wire floors. The waste drops to the ground below and accumulates beneath the cage where flies and other gross things fester.
  + Dogs at puppy mills are often not actually purebred, and the breeders sometimes lie about lineage records.
  + Dogs housed in indoor facilities deal with equally terrible conditions, with ammonia vapors and odors permeating badly aired buildings.
  + Solid surfaces aim to protect the legs of puppies, but as they mature and scout out their surroundings, feet and legs often fall through wire floors designed to allow excrement to fall through. The resulting injuries compound their misery.
  + Unlicensed puppy mills often sell puppies at six weeks of age even though federal laws prohibit licensed mills from selling puppies under eight weeks of age.



http://www.dosomething.org/tipsandtools/11-facts-about-puppy-mills

* Zoos
  + “Pitiful prisons.”
  + Zoos teach people that it is acceptable to interfere with animals and keep them locked up in captivity where they are bored, cramped, lonely, deprived of all control over their lives, and far from their natural homes
  + They speak of came specific cases, such as Rose-Tu,, an elephant at the Oregon Zoo who suffered “176 gashes and cuts” inflicted by a zoo handler wielding a sharp metal rod and another elephant, Sissy, who was beaten with an ax handle at the El Paso Zoo.
  + They reveal how zoos are more for propaganda than education.
  + They do not promote respect or understanding of animals, not do they provide much information other than the animal’s species, diet, and natural range.
  + The animals’ normal behaviors aren’t observed because their natural needs are rarely met.
  + Birds’ wings may be clipped so that they cannot fly, aquatic animals are often without adequate little water, and many animals that live in large herds or family groups in nature are kept alone or, at most, in pairs.
  + Animals are closely confined, lack privacy, and have little opportunity for mental stimulation or physical exercise.
  + These conditions often result in abnormal and self-destructive behaviors or “zoochosis.”



* Factory Farming
* battery cages — small wire cages stacked in tiers and lined up in rows inside huge warehouses
* birds cannot stretch their wings or legs, and they cannot fulfill normal behavioral patterns or social needs. Constantly rubbing against the wire cages, they suffer from severe feather loss, and their bodies are covered with bruises and abrasions
* beaks cut off to reduce injuries resulting from excessive pecking
  + painful procedure that involves cutting through bone, cartilage, and soft tissue.
* 'cage layer fatigue,' and many become 'egg bound' and die when their bodies are too weak to pass another egg.
* After one year in egg production, the birds are classified as 'spent hens' and are sent off to slaughter. Their brittle, calcium-depleted bones often shatter during handling or at the slaughterhouse. They usually end up in soups, pot pies, or similar low-grade chicken meat products in which their bodies can be shredded to hide the bruises from consumers
* How to dispose of spent hens? 🡪 ‘jet-pro’ system (grind into food)
  + In one notorious case of extraordinary cruelty at Ward Egg Ranch in February 2003 in San Diego County, California, more than 15,000 spent laying hens were tossed alive into a wood-chipping machine to dispose of them. Despite tremendous outcry from a horrified public, the district attorney declined to prosecute the owners of the egg farm, calling the use of a wood-chipper to kill hens a "common industry practice."
* 'force molted' to extend their laying capacity. This process involves starving the hens for up to 18 days, keeping them in the dark, and denying them water to shock their bodies into another egg-laying cycle
* For every egg-laying hen confined in a battery cage, there is a male chick who was killed at the hatchery
  + Men are of no economic value 🡪 thrown into trash can (suffocate / get crushed)
  + Grind them alive
* artificially re-impregnated while they are still lactating from their previous birthing
* With genetic manipulation and intensive production technologies, it is common for modern dairy cows to produce 100 pounds of milk a day — ten times more than they would produce naturally. As a result, the cows' bodies are under constant stress, and they are at risk for numerous health problems.
* Approximately half of the country's dairy cows suffer from mastitis, a bacterial infection of their udders
* "Milk Fever." This ailment is caused by calcium deficiency, and it occurs when milk secretion depletes calcium faster than it can be replenished in the blood
* slaughtered and made into ground beef after just three or four years
* beaten, dragged, or pushed with bulldozers in attempts to move them to slaughter
* Bovine Growth Hormone (BGH), a synthetic hormone, is now being injected into cows to get them to produce even more milk. Besides adversely affecting the cows' health, BGH also increases birth defects in their calves
* he half that are born female are raised to replace older dairy cows in the milking herd. The other half of the calves are male, and because they will never produce milk, they are raised and slaughtered for meat. Most are killed for beef, with close to one million being used for veal.
* Veal calves commonly live for eighteen to twenty weeks in wooden crates that are so small that they cannot turn around, stretch their legs, or even lie down comfortably. The calves are fed a liquid milk substitute, deficient in iron and fiber, which is designed to make the animals anemic, resulting in the light-colored flesh that is prized as veal. In addition to this high-priced veal, some calves are killed at just a few days old to be sold as low-grade 'bob' veal for products like frozen TV dinners.

**NEED TO ATTEND TO PROBLEM BECAUSE:**

* + Animal abuse is a serious antisocial behavior by children and adolescents
  + It is a relatively common childhood occurrence
  + It has potential negative developmental consequences
  + Violence towards animals is related to interpersonal violence
  + It is connected to and may be a marker of family violence
  + The well-being of companion animals is being rejected
  + It will help achieve a less violent society
* Background Information
  + Animal abuse = part of a defective personality and / or as a predictor of later criminality
  + “The minimal attention given to this issue by family researchers, clinicians, educators and other family professions has resulted in a very limited knowledge base and little or no efforts to address the problem” (Flynn par.3)
* Why Violence to Animals Has Been Ignored
  + 1) Society tends to value animals less than people 🡪 abusive / violent behavior toward animals is not taken as seriously
  + 2) Other issues are seen as more important & given higher priority
  + 3) Small fraction of cases are ever reported in media, thinking that animal abuse is rare
  + 4) Crimes against animals are seen is isolated incidents rather than connected to other behaviors such as violence against people



**http://media.photobucket.com/image/stop%20animal%20abuse/liveyourlife410/StopAnimalAbuse.jpg**